

Message Text

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10
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 EB-07

MC-02 AID-05 IGA-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /070 W
----- 017784

R 221430Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9329
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
CINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
CSAF WASHDC

S E C R E T ANKARA 4064

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, TU
SUBJ: RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUBSIDIARY COSTS OF ARMS CUTOFF

REF A) ANKARA 2712, B) ANKARA 2803, C) ANKARA 3479, D) STATE 110067

1. SUMMARY: CONSONANT WITH POSITION PREVIOUSLY TAKEN
ON FINANCIAL CHARGES STEMMING FROM CONGRESSIONAL
RESTRICTIONS ON SHIPMENT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO TURKEY
(REFS A AND B), GOT HAS OFFICIALLY INFORMED EMBASSY THAT
U.S. MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY COSTS ACCRUING
FROM LOCKHEED'S INABILITY TO REPAIR AND RETURN FOUR C-130'S
UNDER GOT-USG CONTRACT. WE FORESEE SIMILAR PROBLEM
ARISING IN REGARD DISPOSITION OF GOT REPARABLE PARTS NOW
IN U.S. WE RECOGNIZE NEED TO DISCUSS THESE PROBLEMS
WITH TURKS BUT HOPE SOME WAY CAN NOW BE FOUND TO AVOID
PRESSING UPON GOT BILLS WHICH IT IS NOT GOING TO PAY AND
WHICH WILL ADD STING TO DEEP WOUNDS CAUSED BY ARMS
EMBARGO. END SUMMARY

2. IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE (NUMBER 2315) DATED MAY 21, 1975,
GOT DREW EMBASSY'S ATTENTION TO FORM DD1513 AGREEMENT
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CONCLUDED BETWEEN TURKISH AND U.S. AUTHORITIES ON FEB 18.

1974, FOR WING MODIFICATION OF FOUR TURKISH AIR FORCE C-130 AIRCRAFT. CONFIDENTIAL NOTE REFERRED BUT DID NOT DIRECTLY RESPOND TO RECENT CSAF/LGF REQUEST THAT TURKISH AIR FORCE SELECT ONE OF FOLLOWING THREE OPTIONS: (A) SEND AIRCRAFT TO CONUS FOR MODIFICATION (NEXT AIRCRAFT DUE MAY 25) AND FOREGO THEIR RETURN UNTIL LIFTING OF CONGRESSIONAL RESTRICTIONS, (B) MAINTAIN CONTRACT IN FORCE WITHOUT SUBMITTING AIRCRAFT UNTIL RESTRICTIONS LIFTED, RESULTING IN \$350,000 COST TO TURKISH AIR FORCE (TAF) BY LATE AUGUST THIS YEAR WITH NO TANGIBLE BENEFITS, OR (C) CANCEL CONTRACT NOW AT COST TO TAF OF APPROXIMATELY \$20,000.

3. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF NOTE STATED: QUOTE. SINCE THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES ARE PREPARED TO FULFIL THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT IN QUESTION AND TO PROCEED WITH THE ALREADY ESTABLISHED SCHEDULE, AS FORESEEN IN THE MODIFICATION CONTRACT, THEY CONSIDER THE PROPOSALS OF THE U.S. AUTHORITIES AS REFLECTING THE INABILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO CARRY ON THE MUTUALLY AGREED PROGRAMME. IT IS NATURAL THAT IF THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO FULFIL THEIR OBLIGATIONS AND GIVE THE REQUIRED ASSURANCE FOR THE RETURN OF THE MODIFIED AIRCRAFT TO TURKEY IN DUE TIME, ALL FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES TO ARIS FROM THIS SITUATION, AS WELL AS AN EVENTUAL INCREASED FINANCIAL BURDEN WHICH MIGHT STEM FROM CONCLUDING A NEW AGREEMENT FOR THE SAME PURPOSE AT A LATER DATE, SHOULD BE BORNE BY THE UNITED STATES AND NOT BY THE PARTY WHO IS READY TO COMPLY WITH THE MUTUAL UNDERTAKINGS IN THIS SUBJECT. END QUOTE. FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED.

4. WE FORESEE SIMILAR ALTHOUGH PROBABLY STRONGER GOT REACTION WHEN WE PRESENT TURKISH AIR FORCE WITH CHOICES OFFERED THEM UNDER NEW MAP/DAV REPARABLE RETURNS POLICY (SECDEF MSG 172125Z APRIL 75). TAF NOW HAS APPROXIMATELY \$1.5 MILLION WORTH OF MAP-SUPPLIED REPARABLE PARTS IN U.S. WHICH CAN NO LONGER BE EXCHANGED FOR CREDIT TOWARD OTHER SPARE PARTS AND WHICH THEY MAY CHOOSE TO (A) HAVE REPAIRED AND RETURNED, BOTH AT GOT EXPENSE, (B) HAVE RETURNED AT THEIR EXPENSE,

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94 (C) CEDE TO USG FOR DISPOSAL. SINCE TAF IS UNLIKELY CHOSSE LAST OPTION AND SINCE USG CANNOT RETURN PARTS UNDER FIRST TWO OPTIONS, WE HAVE POSTPONED INFORMING TAF OF NEW POLICY. WE REQUEST THAT JULY 1 DEADLINE FOR THIS ACTION BE FURTHER POSTPONED.

5. AS ILLUSTRATED BY RECENT PRESS REACTION TO REPORT THAT F-4 STORAGE FEES ARE BEING CHARGED TO GOT (REF C),

ANY INDICATIONS THAT GOT IS BEING FORCED TO PAY
SUBSIDIARY COSTS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ARMS CUTOFF IS
ALMOST CERTAIN TO HAVE MAJOR POLITICAL IMPACT HERE. FOR
THIS REASON AND BECAUSE IT PERCEIVES NO LEGAL LIABILITY,
GOT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO PAY ANY OF THESE BILLS OR TO
MAKE HARD CHOICES SUCH AS ARE POSED BY C-130 MODIFICATION
CONTRACT. WE APPRECIATE THAT THER ARE LEGAL IMPEDIMENTS
TO OUR SHOULDERING THESE COSTS AND THAT IN CERTAIN
INSTANCES WE HAVE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO BRING THESE
PROBLEMS TO TURKS' ATTENTION. GOT OFFICIAL ATTITUDE IS
NOW CLEARLY RCODED, HOWEVER, AND WE HOPE THAT FURTHER
U.S. APPROACHES OF THIS NATURE WILL NOT BE NECESSARY.
SHOULD THEY BECOME PUBLIC, THEY WOULD ADD GREATLY TO DEEP
POPULAR INDIGNATION OVER ARMS CUTOFF. WE LOOK FORWARD TO
OUTCOME OF DEPARTMENT'S STUDY ON THIS OVERALL PROBLEM (REF D).
MACOMBER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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